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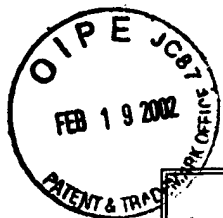
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Moya Kinnealey

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Venkat Gopalan et al.

Art Unit: 1652

Serial No.: 09/516,061

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: March 1, 2000

Customer No.: 21559

Title: NOVEL BACTERIAL RNASE P PROTEINS AND THEIR USE IN IDENTIFYING ANTIBACTERIAL COMPOUNDS

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REPLY TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

In reply to the Examiner's Action mailed August 29, 2001, applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

Kindly amend the application as follows.

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 9, lines 1-23, of the specification with the following paragraph that has been re-written in clean form.

AI
Figs. 2A-2S shows the nucleic acid sequences (SEQ ID NOs 1-19) encoding the amino acid sequences (SEQ ID NOs 20-38) of the bacterial RNase P polypeptides of the invention. The nucleic acid and amino acid sequences were derived from the following pathogenic bacterial species: *Streptococcus mutans*